<u>Abstract</u>

A screw connection element having an outer threaded portion and a sealing means (19) which is disposed in the threads thereof is described. According to the invention, the screw connection element is provided with a protective covering (18) which surrounds the outer threaded portion, is produced from a flexible material and is intended for retaining the sealing means (19) in the threads. In addition, the invention relates to the protective covering (18) itself (Fig. 7).